

YMCA WINTER BASKETBALL

By Barb Beckett

YMCA Program Director

For 15 years, the Grand Traverse Bay YMCA has sponsored a series of winter basketball tournaments held from January to March to promote basketball team sports in our region.

YMCA 2009 "BLIZZARD" 5-ON-5 TOURNEY

Now in its third year, the Blizzard 5-on-5 Tournament is for boys' basketball teams in 7th and 8th grade on Saturday, January 24, 2009. The Blizzard Tournament grows each year with 13 teams from in and beyond the region competing last year (there is a 15 team limit in this event.) These teams played 30 games last year. Divisions are formed for each grade and they play in a round robin format with each team assured at least 3 games. The tournament was founded to fill a need for 7th and 8th grade basketball teams being able to extend their season a little longer while most middle school season last only through December. Games are held in area Traverse City gyms, all games are officiated, and awards given to division top place holders. Registration is \$200 per team and due no later than January 15, 2009 at the YMCA. More information is available from Barb Beckett at the YMCA at 231-933-9622.

YMCA 2009 "WINTER JAM" ADULT MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNEY

The 2009 YMCA Winter Jam celebrates its 15th year and is the oldest and best known men's basketball tournament in Northern Michigan. This year it will be held on January 31 and February 1, 2009. As part of the tradition of Super Bowl weekend, the Winter Jam features competition between various men's basketball teams throughout the region with a 15 team limit for this tourney competing at Traverse City area gyms. There are several divisions offered to differing levels of competition with each team guaranteed 4 games. Registration for the first 15 teams only at \$175 per team is due January 20, 2009 at the YMCA. The Tournament guaranteed to be completed by 3:00 pm on Sunday.

More information is available from Barb Beckett at the YMCA at 231-933-9622.

SAVE THE DATE:

YMCA 2009 "CLASSIC 3-on-3" TOURNEY FOR 3RD TO 6TH GRADE BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAMS.

Celebrating its 6th year, the 2009 Classic 3-on-3 tourney will be held on February 21, 2009 at the Grand Traverse Bay YMCA. This tourney features competition for 3rd to 6th grade boys and girls basketball teams. Registration will be \$100 per team. More information is available from Barb Beckett at the YMCA at 231-933-9622.

SAVE THE DATE:

YMCA 2009 "MIDNIGHT 3-on-3" TOURNEY FOR 5TH TO 9TH GRADE BASKETBALL TEAMS

Founded in 1998, the 2009 3-on-3 tourney will be held on March 13 & 14, 2009 at the Grand Traverse Bay YMCA. This tourney features competition for 5th to 9th grade boys and girls basketball teams. Games can last until midnight. Registration will be \$100 per team. More information is available from Barb Beckett at the YMCA at 231-933-9622.